

one can see clearly into the early history of our nation. The symbolism of the flag also echoes the principles of our government, with each state represented by its own star in the constellation, equal to all the other stars, and each one a vital part of the constellation as a whole.

I think that it is also reflective of our nation of free people that the idea for Flag Day arose, not from a Governmental decree, but from the people. The idea of an annual day to celebrate the Flag is believed to have originated in 1885, when B.J. Cigrand, a school teacher from Fredonia, WI, arranged for pupils of Fredonia's Public School District 6 to celebrate June 14 as "Flag Birthday." Over the following years, Mr. Cigrand advocated the observance of June 14 as "Flag Birthday" or "Flag Day" in magazine and newspaper articles, as well as public addresses.

In 1889, George Balach, a kindergarten teacher in New York City, planned Flag Day ceremonies for the children in his school. His idea of observing Flag Day was subsequently adopted by the State Board of Education of New York. In 1891, the Betsy Ross House in Philadelphia held a Flag Day celebration, and in 1892, the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution held similar festivities.

The Sons of the Revolution in Philadelphia, and the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames of America, further encouraged the widespread adoption of Flag Day, and on June 14, 1893, in Independence Square in Philadelphia, Flag Day exercises were conducted for Philadelphia public school children. The following year, the Governor of New York directed that American flags be flown on all public buildings on June 14, while in Chicago, more than 300,000 children participated in that city's first Flag Day celebration.

On May 30, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson established by proclamation the first official Federal Flag Day on June 14. On August 3, 1949, President Harry S. Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14 of each year as National Flag Day.

So now, thanks to the inspiration of a pair of elementary school teachers who had the vision to bring to life a vivid bit of history for their young students, we are reminded to look out our windows for a bright bit of cloth floating on the breeze, and to recall the struggle that created it, and the great country which it represents so ably and so proudly. There is just nothing like it, nothing like the Stars and Stripes. For in that couple of yards of fabric, we can see the origin of our Nation, its beginnings. We can see the bit of British history that we all share, whether or not any English blood actually flows in our veins. It is in the very shape of our flag, with its red field split by white stripes of separation, in the white stars on a blue field supplanting the British crosses. We can sense the oppression of that unequal partnership. We can feel the frustration of being a

subject colony in those white stripes that separate and break up the red field of the British trade flag. And, we can sense the purpose and optimism of the new nation, so eloquently portrayed by the "new constellation" of white stars against a deep blue sky.

I am proud to follow in the footsteps of B.J. Cigrand and George Balach, and pay homage to this anniversary date. I hope that my colleagues and those who are listening and watching through those electronic eyes, might offer their own salutes to the flag today, and resolve to celebrate today or future Flag Days by unfurling their own flags and flying them proudly. In my own house, over in McLean, I fly the flag when I am there and can watch the flag and take it down if raindrops start to fall. I hope that more Americans, and more American children, might be inspired by the sight of that flag and might do likewise, and that they might learn the history of their flag, and learn to honor and cherish and respect it, on Flag Day and every day.

I close with the stirring words of Henry Holcomb Bennett, who wrote "The Flag Goes By:"

Hats off!
 Along the street there comes
 A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums,
 A flash of color beneath the sky:
 Hats off!
 The flag is passing by!
 Blue and crimson and white it shines,
 Over the steel-tipped, ordered lines.
 Hats off!
 The colors before us fly;
 But more than the flag is passing by:
 Sea-fights and land-fights, grim and great,
 Fought to make and to save the State;
 Weary marches and sinking ships;
 Cheers of victory on dying lips:
 Days of plenty and years of peace;
 March of a strong land's swift increase;
 Equal justice, right and law,
 Stately honor and reverend awe;
 Sign of a nation great and strong
 To ward her people from foreign wrong:
 Pride and glory and honor, all
 Live in the colors to stand or fall.
 Hats off!
 Along the street there comes
 A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums;
 And loyal hearts are beating high:
 Hats off!
 The flag is passing by!

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Kansas.

INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING OF YOUNG GIRLS

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, while we are in this morning business period, I want to take a few minutes to advise the body about a bill that has

cleared through the House and we have held two hearings on in the Foreign Relations Committee and one I hope we are going to be able to clear through here and pass into law during this session.

It is a bill dealing with one of the darker sides of the globalization of the world's economy that has occurred around us. Globalization of the world's economy has been, by and large, a very good thing, a positive thing for growth and opportunity, but it also has a seamier side to it. One of the seamier issues that is coming to light now is the international trafficking of primarily young girls in the sex trade, or as its known, international sex trafficking.

One is astounded by the level at which this is occurring today around the world. By our own Government's numbers, approximately 600,000 primarily young girls are trafficked from one country to the next for the business of prostitution.

There are about 50,000 girls who are, against their will, trafficked into the United States each year into this terrible sort of activity.

In January of this year, I was in Nepal and visited a home where girls who have returned from this terrible trafficking of human individuals live. What I saw there was a ghastly sight. There were young girls, 16, 17, 18 years of age, most of whom had been tricked out of their villages in Nepal and promised a job at a carpet factory or a job as a housekeeper in Katmandu—sometimes in Bombay, India these girls took the job offered, not having any other economic opportunities available to them. Once taking the job and moving out of their villages and away from their families they were forced into a brothel. They were locked in a room, beaten, starved, and submitted to the sex trade, at times being subjected to as many as 30 clients a night.

I saw them after they had escaped. Or in this case, there was a nongovernmental organization, private sector group that was actually organized to try to return the young girls to Nepal. Once they were freed and got back to Nepal, most of these girls returned only to die. Two-thirds of them come back with such things as AIDS or tuberculosis. They are coming back to die.

It is a disgusting, terrible thing that is taking place. We held two hearings in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. We have had witnesses before the committee who had been forced into this trade, tricked into it, deceived into it, or thought they were going to do something else, and were ultimately trafficked into different places around the world.

Dr. Laura Lederer of Johns Hopkins University has spent several years tracking this flow. The committee heard from women from Eastern Europe and Europe who had been trafficked into Israel, people who had been trafficked throughout Asia and then

into the United States from Mexico. Most of the trafficking into the United States occurs from Asia.

They described the conditions surrounding their being bought and sold. After they are forced into one brothel, if the brothel owner wants somebody else, they will sell this person to another brothel. They told us \$7,000, \$8,000 will exchange hands for the sale of human flesh from one place to another—all against this person's will. They hated the conditions that they were in, and yet they found themselves unable to escape.

This bill that I mention has passed the House of Representatives. It is a bipartisan bill that Congressmen CHRIS SMITH and SAM GEJDENSON have pushed to get passed through the House of Representatives.

Senator WELLSTONE and I have the Senate version of this bill. While ours is a different bill, there are a lot of similarities with the House bill—which is at the desk. We are seeking to get it passed, we hope by unanimous consent, by this body because the issue is so terrible, so disgusting, and awful. We need to put some focus on this and have some remedies to it.

Increasingly, you are seeing international organized crime groups getting involved in the trafficking of human flesh. Apparently, they believe this is a business they can be successful at, that unlike drugs, it does not involve as many criminal activities because much of this has not been criminalized. They are saying it is a situation where they can resell their "property." Unlike drugs they sell once, they can sell human flesh multiple times.

It is just a ghastly, terrible thing that is taking place. Organized crime is increasing its activity in this arena, trafficking. We need to step up and address it.

The bill we have put forward would allow the prosecution of people who traffic in human flesh and increase the criminal penalties for doing such. It would provide visas for people who are trafficked into this country, so they can stay and provide evidence, testifying against those who have trafficked them into this country.

This bill would provide some help to the countries they come from by providing educational assistance to work with those governments, to work with people that are in-country to work against this sort of activity, and to provide more information to people that sex trafficking is going on on an expanded, global scale. Nearly some 600,000 people a year are trafficked in human flesh. Much of this happens in the United States, 50,000 people are trafficked into the United States on an annual basis.

I will happily provide to any offices interested in this issue the hearing record Senator WELLSTONE and I have compiled on this bill, so Members can look into this issue. If they seek to make modifications to improve the

bill, our office will be open to work with any office so we can reach unanimous consent on this important issue. It is something we need to and can address. The Administration wants this addressed as well and is working with us to make that happen. The focus on this issue is increasing. In fact, you may have seen one of the recent news reports about this hideous practice.

I am hopeful the time is coming where this body will address this, that it will not get held hostage to any other legislative matter that might be having problems. I am hopeful that we see this as clearly something we can address and that needs to be addressed. I will be bringing to the Senate individual stories of people who have been trafficked because they really tell the terrible plight.

One lady testified in our committee who was trafficked out of Mexico who thought she was going to get a job washing dishes at a restaurant in Florida. She agreed to having somebody take her across the border illegally. Once in the United States, she was their hostage, she was their slave, if we want to put it in those gross types of terms. They said: Instead of being a dishwasher, you will be a prostitute for us. We are going to move you around in trailers to use, and we will subject you to 30 clients a day and, after that is done, to the owners of this brothel as well.

This was the testimony of a witness who reported on activities occurring in this country within the past several years. It is occurring on a large scale. We need to address it; we need to deal with it.

GAMBLING ON INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, another issue I am hopeful of getting in front of the Senate this year is a bill to ban gambling on intercollegiate athletics.

Yesterday the House held a hearing in the Commerce Committee and a markup on a bill to ban gambling on intercollegiate athletics in the United States. There is only one State in which that can occur today. It is in Nevada. There is clearly a problem we need to address. We have had more points shaving scandals in collegiate sports in the decade of the 1990s than all prior decades combined. There is about \$1 billion a year bet on our student athletes. It has been a big problem on our college campuses and is growing. We have one State where it is still legal. In all the rest of the States, this is illegal. In order to deal with the problem of collegiate gambling, we need to make the gambling on our kids illegal. Again, currently it is legal in only one State, and that is Nevada.

The NCAA is a strong supporter of banning gambling on college sports as are all the coaches. Yesterday, the House Judiciary Committee heard from Tubby Smith from the University of

Kentucky and Lou Holtz, football coach. Both testified strongly in favor of this bill. They want to get this gambling influence contained at the collegiate level.

I am hopeful we will reach agreement to have a vote on this issue sometime before the legislative year expires.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, are we in morning business at this time?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct. The Senate is in morning business until 2 o'clock.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that I may speak 7 or 8 minutes at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it so ordered.

LOS ALAMOS SECURITY

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, a few days ago, June 12, we were advised of a security incident associated with our Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. The particular notification initially came out in a press release from Los Alamos, unlike a press release from the Department of Energy. It specifically stated that the Los Alamos National Laboratory announced a joint Department of Energy-Federal Bureau of Investigation inquiry underway into the missing classified information at the DOE Laboratory. The information was stored on two hard drives. It was an electronic transfer. These two hard drives were unaccounted for.

This is a serious matter, to say the least. The press release indicated that at this point there is no evidence that suggests espionage involved in this incident.

Today we had an opportunity to hold a joint hearing between the Intelligence Committee, chaired by Senator SHELBY, and the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, which I chair. It was rather enlightening because the Secretary of Energy was not there, although he was invited. The significance of what we learned was that no one bears the ultimate responsibility. The Department of Energy suggests that they designated certain people to bear this responsibility. There was a process and procedure underway, but circumstances associated with the disastrous fire, the need for evacuation and other factors, all led to the missing documentation and the two hard drives.

I can generalize and suggest that, well, our national security to a degree went up in smoke at the time of the disastrous fires in New Mexico. You can lose your car keys, but you don't lose these hard drives.

What we are talking about is the very highest security interests of this Nation. Missing on the hard drives is the highly sensitive information that covers not only the Russian nuclear weapons programs but how we arm and disarm nuclear devices. Imagine what